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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/673,897	01/05/2001	Bichot Guillaume	PF980020	7113
7590 01/10/2008 Joseph S Tripoli Thomson Multimedia Licensing Inc PO Box 5312 Princeton, NJ 08540			EXAMINER NGUYEN, VAN H	
			ART UNIT 2194	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 01/10/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/673,897

Applicant(s)

GUILLAUME ET AL.

Examiner

VAN H. NGUYEN

Art Unit

2194

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed 10/22/2007.

Claims 1-10 are presented for examination.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following minor informalities:
 - Claim 1: "*Method*" (line 1) should read "*A method*"; "*this device*" (line 4) should read "*the device*"
 - Claim 2: "*this object*" (line 2) should read "*the object*"; "*this identifier*" (lines 2-3) should read "*the identifier*"; "*the network*" (line 3) should read "*the communication network*"
 - Claim 3: "*this device identifier*" (line 2) should read "*the device identifier*"; "*the network*" (line 3) should read "*the communication network*"; "*this object*" (line 3) should read "*the object*"
 - Claims 2-8: "*Method*" (line 1) should read "*The method*"
 - Claim 9: "*Device*" (line 1) should read "*A device*"; "*this device*" (line 4) should read "*the device*"; "*the network*" (line 5) should read "*the communication network*"

- Claim 10: "*Device*" (line 1) should read "*The device*"; "*the network*" (line 2) should read "*the communication network*"

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-10 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- As to claim 1: "*the distributed management*", "*the single local registry*", "*the responses*", "*the response*", and "*the initial request*" lack antecedent basis.
- As to claim 5: "*the function*" lacks antecedent basis; "*a local registry*" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear if it is referring to "*the local registry*" recited in claim 1.
- As to claim 6: "*a request*" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear if it is referring to "*the request*" recited in claim 1.
- As to claim 9: "*the local registries*", "*the responses*", and "*the response*" lack antecedent basis.

- Dependent claims 2-9 and 10 are rejected for fully incorporating the deficiencies of their base claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims **1-10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Saito et al.** (US 6523696 B1).

As to claim 9:

Chambers teaches device in a communication network (*see Figs. 1-5*) comprising:
means for storing local objects; means for storing a local registry for containing a catalogue of objects local to the device; means for connecting the device to the network (*see the devices discussion*); means for propagating a request for a list of objects formulated by a local object to the local registries of other devices; and means for

collecting the responses of the registries of the other devices and the response of the local registry and for transmitting the responses to the object having formulated the request *(see the Abstract the discussion beginning at col.12, line 5).*

As to claim 10:

Saito teaches means for determining the addresses of devices of the network comprising so-called distant registries *(see the discussion beginning at col.12, line 5).*

As to claim 1:

The rejection of claim 1 above is incorporated herein in full. Additionally Saito teaches formulating, by a local object, a request for a list of objects, the request being transmitted to the single local registry of the device hosting the local object *(see the discussion beginning at col.12, line 5).*

As to claim 2:

Saito teaches a local registry comprises for each object registered therein an identifier of this object in the network, this identifier being unique for the network, as well as attributes of the object *(see the discussion beginning at col.12, line 5).*

As to claim 3:

Saito teaches the identifier comprises an identifier of the device in which the object is present, this device identifier being unique in the network, as well as of a local identifier

unique to this object at the level of the device object (*see the discussion beginning at col.12, line 5*).

As to claim 4:

Saito teaches a type of request formulated by an object is a request comprising at least one selection criterion pertaining to an object attribute (*see the discussion beginning at col.12, line 5*).

As to claim 5:

Saito teaches the function of an object is an attribute stored by a local registry in respect of the object (*see the discussion beginning at col.12, line 5*).

As to claim 6:

Saito teaches determining the devices connected to the network which themselves comprise a registry (*see the discussion beginning at col.12, line 5*).

As to claim 7:

Saito teaches the determination of the types of the devices present in the network, the type of a device indicating whether it hosts a registry or whether it does not host one (*see the discussion beginning at col.12, line 5*).

As to claim 8:

Saito teaches selection criteria for at least two lists of objects, as well as at least one operator for processing the lists (*see the discussion beginning at col.12, line 5*).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed on 10/22/2007 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry or a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: (571) 272-2100.

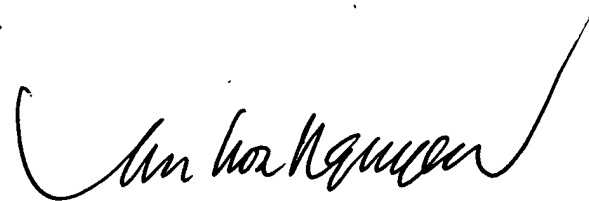
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VAN H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-3765. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM-6:00PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternative Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WILLIAM THOMSON can be reached at (571) 272-3718.

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The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



VAN H. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER